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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) An electronic thermometer comprising:

a display device (6) for displaying a temperature measurement in a predetermined display digit number;

a temperature measurement device (3) for generating a temperature measurement signal based on the temperature of the associated object;

E' a computation device (5) for computing a temperature value of a digit number larger than the predetermined display digit number to be displayed on the display device (6) on the basis of the temperature measurement signal; and

a control device for controlling the display device to display a first temperature value portion and a second temperature value portion in a time sharing manner, wherein the first portion is displayed with a first set of predetermined digit or digits, and the second portion is displayed with a second set of predetermined digit or digits including any digit or digits other than the first predetermined digit or digits.

21. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the temperature value computed by the computation device includes a first portion of predetermined digit numbers and a second portion of digit numbers different than the first portion of numbers, and the control device controls the display device such that the first portion and the second portion are displayed on the display device in a time-sharing manner.

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22. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein a the first temperature value portion is defined by taking a temperature value expanding from the highest digit down to a predetermined lower digit and a the second temperature value portion is defined by taking a temperature value expanding from the lowest digit up to a predetermined higher digit, and the control device controls the display device in such a manner that the first temperature value portion and the second temperature value portion are alternately displayed on the display device.

23. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first temperature value portion and the second temperature value portion are displayed on the display device in one of alternately and in a time-sharing manner.

24. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first portion and the second portion are selected from the same temperature value computed by the computation device and are displayed on the display device.

25. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first portion and the second portion are selected from different temperature values computed by the computation device and are displayed on the display device.

26. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 25, wherein the control device controls the display device to display the first and the second temperature value portions for every temperature measuring operation.

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27. (Previously Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the control device controls the display device to display the first or the second temperature value portions in a single temperature measuring operation.

(C'ntd)
28. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the control device controls the display device to display one of:

the first temperature value portion and then the second temperature value portion in a time-sharing manner; and,

the second temperature value portion and then the first temperature value portion in a time-sharing manner.

29. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the first temperature value portion and the second temperature value portion are displayed on the display device in one of a time-sharing manner and alternately.

30. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, further including:
an operation switch that the control device changes on the basis of a predetermined operation of the operation switch the display of the first temperature value portion to the second temperature value portion or vice versa.

31. (Previously Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 21, wherein a temperature value computed by the computation device has four digits as expressed in one of Centigrade and Fahrenheit, the first temperature value portion consisting of a portion

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of the temperature value of higher three digits while the second temperature value portion consists of a portion of the temperature value of the lowest fourth digit.

(E'
(contd))
32. (Previously Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 22, wherein a temperature value computed by the computation device has four digits as expressed in one of Centigrade and Fahrenheit, the first temperature value portion consists of a portion of the temperature value of higher three digits while the second temperature value portion consists of a portion of the temperature value of lower three digits.

33. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the control device controls the display device to take different display modes for the first and the second temperature value portions.

34. (Currently Amended) The electronic thermometer according to claim 22, wherein the temperature value computed by the computation device has a decimal point and the control device controls the display device such that the decimal point is lighted when of the first temperature value portion is displayed ~~lighted~~ while the decimal point ~~of the second temperature value portion~~ is not lighted when the second temperature value portion is displayed.

35. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, wherein the display device displays the first temperature value portion in a lighting condition while the second temperature value portion in a blinking condition.

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(E)
(canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 20, further including:
an operation switch for initiating temperature measurement, wherein the control device switches a display of the first temperature value portion and the second temperature value portion on the basis of an operation pattern of the operation switch.

37. (Previously Presented) The electronic thermometer according to claim 36, wherein the control device detects an operation pattern of the operation switch at a time of initiation of temperature measurement.

38. (Cancelled)
